

NATIONAL GUARD ^[694]

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR AND PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION MUSTER ROLLS, 1898-1899.

1 cu. ft. (2 vols.) and 1 microfilm reel

DESCRIPTION: This series contains muster-in and muster-out rolls for Utah military units called into service during the Spanish American War. The muster-in rolls include the following types of information for each serviceman: name, rank, description (age, height, complexion, eye color and hair color), birthplace, occupation, marital status, residence, emergency contact, date of commission or enlistment in service, valuation of horses and equipment, home station or company rendezvous, and signature. The content of the muster-out rolls is similar but much abbreviated.

Three identical rolls were made at the time of mustering-in for each service unit or troop and were dispersed as follows: one copy to the Adjutant General of the Army; the second copy to the Adjutant General of the state to which the troops belonged; and the third copy to the company or detachment commander. Notably, separate muster rolls were created for each officer, with some slight variations in content.

During the Spanish American War most Utahns served in units organized within the state which were formerly National Guard units. However, a technicality in the law prohibited the National Guardsmen from serving outside the boundaries of the United States. The states got around this technicality by having the guardsmen resign and then reenlist as members of federal units. The units from Utah that served in this manner were batteries A and B of the Utah Light Artillery; Troop A, Utah Cavalry (regular cavalry); and Troop I of Torrey's Roughriders (a special troop of mounted riflemen). An additional unit was sent from Utah, Company K of Engineers, 2nd Engineer Regiment, U.S. Volunteers, recruited from Salt Lake City; and another two hundred men from the state were recruited into the 4th U.S. Cavalry, the 14th U.S. Infantry, and the 11th U.S. Cavalry.

The Spanish American War began on April 25, 1898 when the United States declared war on Spain following the sinking of the Battleship Maine in Havana harbor on February 15, 1898. The war ended with the signing of the Treaty of Paris on December 10, 1898. The Utah Artillery fought in the war's Manila campaign. At the war's end they stayed in the Philippines, and assisted in fending off the Philippine Insurrection until June 1899. The other Utah units were stationed in assorted locations throughout the United States and Hawaii, never seeing military action.

ARRANGEMENT: The rolls are arranged by unit and rank. Within each service unit or troop, commissioned and noncommissioned officers are listed first according to rank. Thereunder, privates are listed in alphabetic order by surname and then given name.

RESEARCH NOTE: The muster rolls were originally bound in two volumes--muster-in rolls in one, and muster-out rolls in the other. In the volume of muster-in rolls, the officers' rolls precede those for the troops and service units. In the volume of muster-out rolls, the sequence is reversed. The filming mirrors this original order. On the microfilm version the volume of muster-out rolls is preceded by a group of rosters that list the Utah National Guardsmen involved in the conflict, by service unit or troop. The creator and origin of the rosters, and thus their reliability, is unknown.

RELATED RECORDS: Series 6308, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S RECORDS, provides a comprehensive account of the duties and activities of the office of the Adjutant General, the chief administrative officer of the National Guard. It includes reports of field operations from the battle fronts of the Spanish American War and Philippine Insurrection. Series 84193, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR SCRAPBOOK, is a compilation of articles from local newspapers documenting Utah's involvement in the conflict from beginning to end. Series 983, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR MEDALS, contains unclaimed service medals presented by the state to veterans of Utah service units involved in the Spanish American War.

Series 10318, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR SERVICE CARDS, is a microfilm copy of service cards for veterans of Utah service units involved in the Spanish American War. Series 24048, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR AND PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION SERVICE CARDS, is a microfilm copy of service cards for Utah veterans of the Spanish American War and Philippine Insurrection. Series 85268, MILITARY SERVICE CARDS, is a microfilm copy of service cards for Utah veterans that participated in military conflicts spanning from 1898-1975. The bulk of the cards pertain to World War I and World War II veterans, though there are also cards for Spanish American War and Mexican Border Campaign veterans.

Series 20843, SPANISH AMERICAN WAR ANTE-MUSTER PAY RECORDS, contains transaction records related to the ante-muster fund. This fund was comprised of moneys allocated by Congress to pay the claims of volunteers from the time they enlisted to the time they were mustered into federal service.

PROCESSING NOTE: This series was processed by Anissa Taylor in January 2002.

PREFERRED CITATION: Cite the Utah State Archives and Records Service, the creating agency name, the series title, and the series number.